

REPORT ON AMBULANCE

REPORT ON WOOL SENT TO CONGRESS

President Recommends That Rates Be Mate-

HE PRAISES WORK

Urges That Revision of Schedule
Be Proceeded With at Once,
but Does Not Propose Any
Definite Duty, Merely Pre-
senting Findings of Fact

Washington, D. C., December 20.—President Taft sent to Congress to-day the long-awaited report of the Tariff Board on Schedule K of the Payne tariff act, and with it a message rec-

The report shows that the existing duties on many classes of wool and wool manufactures are prohibitory and greatly in excess of the difference in

the cost of production here and abroad. The duties are so arranged as to keep out of the United States entirely wools of finer qualities, which, if imported might be used to displace the cheap

President Taft calls attention to these points and urges that a revision of the schedule be proceeded with at once. He characterizes the report of

the Tariff Board as the most complete and exhaustive statement of a difficult and complicated subject ever presented to a legislative body. He declares it a monument to the thoroughness, in

the men engaged in its making. He also dwells with emphasis upon the fact that the report is a unanimous one, and asserts the belief that it will convince all of the wisdom of making the Tariff Board permanent.

Neither the President nor the board proposes definite rates of duty. Mr. Tafel holding that the function of the board is merely to present findings of fact on which rates of duty may be fairly determined, in the light of adequate

knowledge and in accord with the economic policy to be followed. President Taft recommends that the proposed revision adheres to a policy of protection based upon the difference in cost of production at home and abroad.

Laid on Table.
An attempt to have the report referred to the Ways and Means Committee without printing met with a demand from the Republicans that the entire report be printed at once. Pi

In his message, after referring briefly to the creation of the Tariff Board, the President says in part:

accompanying the veto of the wool bill. I said that in my judgment Schedule 1 should be revised and the rates reduced. My veto was based on the ground that since the Tariff Board would make in December a detailed re-

port on wool and wool manufactures with special reference to the relation of the existing rates of duties to relative costs of here and abroad, public policy and a fair regard to the interests of the producers and the manufacturers on the one hand and the

consumers, on the one hand, and of the
legislation should not be hastily
enacted in the absence of such infor-
mation; that I was not myself pos-
sessed at that time of adequate knowl-
edge of the facts to determine whether

or not the proposed act was in accordance with my pledge to support a fair and reasonable protective policy; that such legislation might prove only temporary and inflict upon a great industry the evils of continued uncertainty.

the Tariff Board on Schedule K. The board is unanimous in its findings. On the basis of these findings I now recommend that the Congress proceed to a consideration of this schedule, with a view to revision and a general re-

Present Methods. The report shows that the present method of assessing the duty on raw wool—that is, by a specific rate on the grease pound (i. e., unscoured)—operates to exclude small users of

operates to exclude wools of high shrinkage in scouring but fine quality from the American market, and thereby lessens the range of wools available to the domestic manufacturer; that the duty on scoured wool of 32 cents per pound is prohibitory, and en-

erates to exclude the importation of clean, low-priced foreign wools of inferior grades, which are nevertheless valuable material for manufacturing and which cannot be imported in the grease because of their heavy shrinkage. Such wools, if imported,

"To make the preceding paragraph a little plainer, take the instance of 100 pounds of first-class wool imported under the present duty, which is

cents a pound. That would make the duty on the 100 pounds \$11. The merchantable part of the wool thus imported is the weight of the wool of this 100 pounds after scouring. If the wool shrinks 80 per cent., as some

wools do, then the duty in such a case would amount to \$11 on twenty pounds of scoured wool. This, of course, would be prohibitory. If the wool shrinks only 50 per cent., it would be \$11 on fifty pounds of wool, and this is near to the average cost.

and this is near to the average of the great bulk of wools that are imported from Australia, which is the principal source of our imported wool.

Duties Prohibitory.

"The duties on many classes of wool manufacture are prohibitory and great

"This is true of tops, of yarns (with the exception of worsted yarns of a